

Project Information Sheet

North-of-the-Delta Offstream Storage

<u>Project Leads</u>	Study lead:	Department of Water Resources
	NEPA lead:	Bureau of Reclamation
	CEQA lead:	DWR

Relationship with Tribes As CALFED signatories, DWR and Reclamation have agreed to a number of implementation commitments including specifically Tribal Consultation and Environmental Justice as described in the Record of Decision. Tribes, Indian interests, DWR, Reclamation, and BIA jointly developed the *Guiding Principles: Working with Indian Tribes On North-of-the-Delta Offstream Storage* document. Also, the Bureau of Reclamation is a federal agency under the U.S. Department of Interior. As an Executive Branch agency, Reclamation acknowledges and affirms the special relationship between the United States and Federally recognized Indian tribes; Reclamation has a trust responsibility to such tribes to evaluate the potential impacts of its undertakings on Indian trust assets and to consult with federally recognized tribes when such evaluations reveal impacts that may occur to those assets. In addition, the Bureau of Indian Affairs requested and was granted cooperating agency status on the development of environmental compliance documents as they relate to Indian trust resources.

Location Potential NODOS alternatives are located in the Sacramento Valley.

Purpose Project objectives described in the CALFED ROD are to:

- Enhance water management flexibility in the Sacramento Valley
- Reduce water diversion on the Sacramento River during critical fish migration periods
- Increase reliability of supplies for a significant portion of the Sacramento Valley

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- Provide storage and operational benefits for other CALFED programs including Delta water quality and the Environmental Water Account

Benefits Potential benefits identified to date include water supply reliability for local, regional and statewide uses, water quality, ecosystem (including fisheries) restoration, the Environmental Water Account, and operational flexibility. Local tribes are cooperatively managing water resources studies that will explore potential tribal-related benefits that could be derived from NODOS as well as potential impacts.

Features to be Constructed A NODOS project will likely include storage such as an offstream reservoir (including dams and appurtenant structures), diversion facilities from source streams, and conveyance to storage and to users. Other potential features may include relocated roads, power and recreation facilities.

How It Works The ROD describes a Sites Reservoir formulation of NODOS that would divert water from the Sacramento River and its tributaries for storage offstream in a 1.8 million acre-foot reservoir. Diversion would occur during periods when flows are in excess of system requirements (primarily during the Winter). Diversion and conveyance could be provided through new or existing facilities. Existing facilities may be modified or expanded. Water in storage could then be used locally, regionally, or for statewide benefits as described above.

Interested Federally Recognized Tribes

Cachil DeHe Band of Wintun Indians of the Colusa Indian Community

Cortina Indian Rancheria of Wintun Indians

Grindstone Indian Rancheria of Wintun-Wailaki Indians

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Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians

Opportunities for Tribal Participation

1. All tribes can request from the lead agency to be placed on mailing lists to receive notices of public meetings, public workshops and public hearings about CALFED projects.
2. All tribes can provide comment at public meetings, public workshops and give testimony at public hearings about CALFED projects.
3. All tribes can obtain copies of Environmental Impact Statements/Environmental Impact Reports to review and provide written comments about their contents.
4. All tribes can review CALFED lead agency internet sites on CALFED projects and provide input by email.
5. All tribes can contact the CALFED lead agency, project contact, identified on this sheet for project information updates.
6. All tribes can participate in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as an interested party, relating tribal concerns about possible adverse effects to historic and Traditional Cultural Properties.
7. Federally recognized tribal governments can be engaged in the planning and development of specific CALFED projects in their areas by CALFED lead agencies.

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8. In accordance with the CALFED ROD, CALFED Agencies can and will consult with federally recognized tribal governments on a government-to-government basis, to the extent permitted by law, prior to taking actions that affect such tribal governments.
9. In accordance with the CALFED ROD, federally recognized tribes, upon request, can enter into Memorandums of Understanding with CALFED Agencies to specify how the federal, state and tribal governments will work together, on a government-to-government basis, in developing CALFED projects.
10. Lead federal agencies encourage federally recognized tribal governments to seek Cooperating Agency status, via agreement, when there is potential that the proposed CALFED project may have a direct effect on trust resources. Such status provides for the tribe opportunity to bring their expertise and knowledge to the development of environmental compliance documents, as they relate to trust resources.

Use of Information: This information is meant to be used by tribes to formulate their own opinions about (1) the social, economic and environmental worthiness of the specific undertaking, (2) the potential impact such an undertaking may have on the character, use or nature of trust assets, and (3) potential participation as a project beneficiary and (4) to convey the tribe's opinions to the lead agency for analysis.

Schedule

June 2001 - present

November 2001

January 2002

NODOS tribal coordination meetings

Filed NOP/NOI

Public and tribal scoping meetings

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Summer 2005

Public drafts of EIS/EIR and
engineering feasibility reports

Potential construction of NODOS is likely years away and dependent upon public opinion, the feasibility findings, findings of the environmental documents, appropriate permitting, and congressional, legislative, and public support.

Project Website

<http://www.storage.water.ca.gov/northdelta/index.cfm>

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